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# PRACTICAL FACTS ABOUT NEW YORK

PUBLISHED BY
THE KNICKERBOCKER INFORMATION BUREAU
VANDERBILT CONCOURSE OFFICES
52 VANDERBILT AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

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BY
HARRY A. GUIREMAND

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HARRY A. GUIREMAND

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# INTRODUCTION

AS ITS TITLE indicates, this booklet contains practical information about the great City of New York. It was written principally for people who are unfamiliar with New York City, but it also contains information which should be of interest to all Americans. Under such headings as Living Conditions, Cost of Living, Methods of Obtaining Employment, Educational Opportunities, etc., brief statements of fact are presented which will place the reader in possession of much useful information regarding America's Greatest City. The booklet also contains considerable general information as to the City's history, the location, size and relative importance of the different boroughs, the government of the City and various other matters which should be of interest.

There are many guide books detailing New York City's attractions and points of interest, but, so far as we know, this is the only book designed to give such information about New York as is outlined above.

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# PRACTICAL FACTS ABOUT NEW YORK

## FOREWORD

IN many respects New York is the greatest city in the world. Its population includes people of every race and creed; its foreign commerce exceeds that of any other city; it is the most important manufacturing center in the United States; it is the business center of the United States; it contains the largest banks and financial institutions in the United States, and most of the nation-wide enterprises are financed there; it offers more free educational opportunities than any other city in the world: it is the theatrical and fashion center of the United States, and it contains more public libraries, hotels and theatres than any other city.

### A BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE HISTORY OF THE CITY

In the month of September, 1609, Henry Hudson, a bold English navigator employed by the Dutch East India Company to find a northwest passage to India, entered the beautiful body of water now known as New York Harbor, viewed Manhattan Island and sailed up the great river which now bears his name until he reached the site of the present City of Albany. Although Hudson was not the first explorer to enter New York Harbor, it was largely as the result of his extensive explorations and of his report of his findings that the attractions of this region, and the exceptional opportunities which it offered of obtaining valuable furs from the Indians, were brought to the attention of the Old World, ultimately resulting in the settlement of Manhattan Island by the Dutch. Hudson therefore deserves the honor of having discovered Manhattan Island, on which the foundations of the City of New York were laid. The settlement of the Island was begun by the Dutch in a small way in the year 1623, but it was not until two or three years afterward that settlers began to arrive in considerable numbers. In 1626 the Island of Manhattan was purchased from the Indians by the Dutch Governor, Peter Minuet, for merchandise valued at about twenty-four dollars. The little settlement was given the name New Amsterdam, and the Dutch province of which it was the chief port was named New Netherlands. Although there were occasional difficulties with the Indians and with neighboring colonies, the settlement grew steadily.

Late in August, 1664, although England and Holland were not then at war, an English fleet anchored near Manhattan Island and the surrender of New Amsterdam was demanded. The Dutch, being taken by surprise, tried to parley, but early in the month of September were forced to capitulate. This action on the part of England resulted from the fact that King Charles II of England had, in very high-handed fashion, granted to his brother, the Duke of York, large stretches of territory on the Atlantic Coast of North America, including the Dutch colony of New Netherlands, basing his right to do so on the ground that England was entitled to this territory because of the explorations of the earlier English navigators. The name New York was given by the English to the captured town and province, and the inhabitants were subject to English rule for about nine years.

In July, 1673, while England and Holland were at war, New York was retaken by the Dutch, and for about one year Dutch rule was restored. But by the terms of a treaty of peace concluded between England and Holland, the Dutch province in North America was ceded to England, the name New York was restored, and in November, 1674, English rule was again formally established. The colony remained under English rule for more than a century, during which time the colonists constantly strove for wider powers of self-government. There were disturbances, resulting chiefly from misgovernment and religious differences, but in spite of these the city and province of New York continued to grow and prosper until the time of the American Revolution.

During the Revolution important military and naval movements took place and important battles were fought within or near the present limits of the City of New York. The City was taken by the British in September, 1776, and was held by them throughout the period of the Revolution. A few days after the English occupancy a fire broke out which destroyed a large part of the City.

After Washington was elected President, New York City became the capital of the nation for about one year, 1789–1790.

As will be seen from the following figures, the City grew rapidly after the Revolution. In 1800 the population was about 79,000; in 1820, about 152,000; in 1840, about 390,000; in 1860, more than 1,150,000; in 1880, about 1,900,000; in 1900, about 3,500,000; in 1910, 4,766,383. An enumeration made by the Police Department of New York City in 1915 showed that the population then was 5,253,885.

For a long time Manhattan Island (which is 13½ miles long and about 2¼ miles wide at its widest point) and certain small islands in the surrounding waters marked the limits of the City of New York. In 1874 a section of the mainland of the State of New York immediately north of Manhattan Island was added to the City, and in 1898, when "Greater New York" was formed, the City was greatly enlarged by extending its limits to include additional territory on the north, the City of Brooklyn and various towns on the east, and the whole of Staten Island on the south. The State of New Jersey lies on the west side of Manhattan Island, being separated from it by the Hudson River, so that the City could not be extended in that direction.

At present the City of New York covers an area of 326 square miles, and its population as above stated is 5,253,885. The City consists of five Boroughs—the Borough of Manhattan, the Borough of Brooklyn, the Borough of The Bronx, the Borough of Queens and the Borough of Richmond. Each of these boroughs comprises a separate county of the State of New York.

## GENERAL STATEMENT AS TO BOROUGHS

*The Borough of Manhattan:* This borough (which embraces New York County) includes the whole of Manhattan Island and a number of smaller islands in the surrounding waters. It is the most important of all the boroughs, and is, in fact, the heart and center of the City. The name Manhattan was derived from a tribe of Indians—the Manhattans—who inhabited the surrounding country when the Dutch settlers arrived. In this borough are the City Hall; the Municipal Building, containing most of the executive offices of the various City Departments; the famous skyscrapers; the Financial District, centering around Wall Street; the Stock, Cotton, Produce, Coffee and numerous other important exchanges; the Theatrical District, on the "Great White Way"; the important shopping districts; the largest hotels, apartment houses, churches, museums; the great newspaper offices, steamship wharves, palatial private dwellings and many of the important public buildings. Although its area is somewhat less than 22 square miles, the population of the Borough of Manhattan is 2,295,761. This borough is connected with all the other boroughs by subway tunnels, which pass under the rivers, by immense bridges which accommodate elevated railway trains and street cars as well as vehicles and pedestrians, and by various ferries.

Large sections of the lower or southern part of Manhattan Island are occupied almost exclusively by the immense office buildings known as skyscrapers and by other buildings used for business purposes. Many of the skyscrapers contain hundreds of offices, which, during business hours, are occupied by thousands of office workers. Thousands of people who do business or are employed on Manhattan Island live in other sections of the City and travel considerable distances to and from their work each day. And there are besides additional thousands of commuters, or people who live outside the limits of the City, but who come to Manhattan Island each day for business purposes. Some of these commuters come from points fifty or more miles distant from Manhattan. This condition of affairs gives rise to serious transportation problems. At certain hours in the morning, when the great swarms of workers pour into the business districts of the Borough of Manhattan from all directions (including many thousands from the State of New Jersey), and again at certain hours in the evening, when these same workers return to their homes, the various transportation facilities of the City—subways, elevated railroads and street cars, as well as the suburban railroad lines—are overcrowded, and many men and women are forced to stand in the cars

for an hour or more when riding to and from their places of business on Manhattan Island.

*The Borough of Brooklyn:* This borough comprises Kings County, and lies east of Manhattan Island, being separated from Manhattan by the East River. Before the formation of Greater New York Brooklyn was an important city with a mayor and government of its own. In population and commercial importance it ranks second to the Borough of Manhattan. Brooklyn derives its name from an old town in Holland—Breuckelen—this name having been bestowed by the early Dutch settlers upon one of the villages included in the limits of the present borough. Brooklyn was settled soon after the arrival of the Dutch on Manhattan Island, and at an early date was connected with Manhattan by a ferry. The area of this borough is about 77½ square miles, and its population is 1,825,534. Three immense bridges and various subway tunnels and ferries connect Brooklyn and Manhattan. The Borough of Brooklyn has an extensive water front and excellent docking facilities. A number of steamship companies as well as commercial and manufacturing concerns have wharves along this water front. There are three or four popular bathing beaches (including the famous Coney Island), and various parks, racetracks and parkways in Brooklyn. In fact, Brooklyn is a beautiful borough, with wide avenues, large public buildings, numerous churches, fine hotels and apartment houses and handsome private residences. Fort Hamilton, one of the defenses of New York City, and a large Government Navy Yard are located in this borough.

*The Borough of The Bronx:* This borough embraces Bronx County, on the mainland of New York State immediately to the north of Manhattan Island, being separated from the latter by the Harlem River, a comparatively narrow stream. The Bronx derives its name from one Jonas Bronck, its first white settler, who took up his abode in this locality in the year 1639. Part of the present borough was annexed to New York City in 1874, and the remainder was added to the City in 1898. This borough covers about 40½ square miles and its population is 649,726. Because of its proximity to Manhattan Island, and the direct transportation facilities which exist between the two boroughs, The Bronx has been rapidly developed in the last decade. Although some manufacturing is carried on in The Bronx, it is primarily a residential borough. It has not the long rows of wharves and factories that are to be seen in Manhattan and Brooklyn. The Bronx has some very attractive residential sections, but the larger part of the borough is covered with apartment houses which shelter the middle and poorer classes. This borough contains the three largest parks in the City. Numerous bridges and a subway tunnel connect the Bronx with Manhattan.

*The Borough of Queens:* This borough comprises Queens County, lying to the east of Manhattan Island and separated from it by the East River. The first white settlers in this region were Dutch farmers, who began to arrive as early as 1637. The Borough of Queens derives its name from old Queens County, which was formed by the English of towns located in or near the present borough. This borough embraces various

old towns on the western end of Long Island, and also includes Long Island City, in which there are a number of large factories. The area of this borough is about 129½ miles, and its population is 389,233. Being less thickly populated than the three boroughs previously referred to, Queens still has within its borders numerous pretty homesteads, as well as a number of interesting old landmarks. Two or three popular bathing resorts are in this borough. Queens is connected with Manhattan by the Queensborough Bridge, the longest passenger bridge in the City, by subway tunnels, by ferry, by railroad and by various surface car lines which cross the Queensborough Bridge. It also is accessible through the Borough of Brooklyn by means of a number of street car lines and elevated railroads. The Borough of Queens is in process of development and is growing rapidly.

*The Borough of Richmond:* This borough and the county of the same name comprise the whole of Staten Island, which is situated in New York Bay, about five miles south of Manhattan Island. Staten Island received its name from Henry Hudson, who named it "Staaten Eylandt" in honor of the States General of the Netherlands. After the English came into possession of Manhattan Island and the surrounding territory Staten Island became Richmond County. The Borough of Richmond has an area of some 57 square miles and its population is 93,631. It is the least thickly settled of the boroughs comprising the City of New York. In it there are still open fields, woodlands, winding roads and old homesteads. The long rows of apartment houses which are an ever-present feature of the other boroughs have not as yet made their appearance in this borough to any great extent. From the heights on the north end of Staten Island a magnificent view can be had of Upper New York Bay, and in the distance can be seen the imposing Statue of Liberty. Fort Wadsworth, one of the important defenses of New York City, is located on Staten Island. There are also various bathing beaches in this borough. The Borough of Richmond is connected with Manhattan by an excellent Municipal Ferry, employing the largest and fastest ferryboats in the world.

## A BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY

The most important administrative officers of the City are the Mayor, the Comptroller, the President of the Board of Aldermen and the Borough Presidents.

The Mayor is the chief executive officer of the City. His responsibilities and powers are very great. The people generally look upon him as the man responsible for the manner in which the City is governed. The Mayor is empowered to appoint and remove a large number of important City officials, and also is empowered to appoint a number of City Magistrates and Judges. He has the power of veto over bills passed by the Legislature of the State of New York relating to the affairs of New York City, as well as over ordinances passed by the Board of Aldermen of the City of New York.

The Comptroller has general supervision over the City's finances, and is a member of a number of important committees and commissions.

The President of the Board of Aldermen presides over the Board of Aldermen and has other important duties. When the Mayor is absent for any considerable period of time, or when the Mayor's office becomes vacant, the President of the Board of Aldermen is Acting Mayor.

The Borough Presidents (of which there are five—one for each borough) administer the local affairs of their separate boroughs and have general supervision over all kinds of local improvements.

All of the officials referred to above are elected every four years, the Mayor, Comptroller and President of the Board of Aldermen by the City at large, and the Borough Presidents by the voters of their separate boroughs.

The important administrative and legislative bodies of the City are the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and the Board of Aldermen, and in the determination of certain important matters joint action by these two Boards is necessary.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment is composed of the Mayor (who is the Chairman of the Board), the Comptroller, the President of the Board of Aldermen and the five Borough Presidents. This Board has been described as the "Board of Directors of New York City." It shapes the financial policies of the City, decides on the granting of franchise privileges and has many other important functions and powers.

The Board of Aldermen is the legislative assembly of the City. It passes ordinances and resolutions effective in the City and has numerous other functions and powers. The Aldermen are elected every two years. The entire City has been divided into Aldermanic Districts. There are at present 73 Aldermen, representing as many districts. The five Borough Presidents also are members of the Board of Aldermen, and each head of a city department is entitled to a seat in the Board but has no vote.

The judicial branch of the city government is represented by an elaborate system of criminal and civil courts, from some of which appeals can be taken to the higher State courts. The City also has various courts set aside for special purposes, such as Night Courts, Domestic Relations Courts, a Children's Court and also a court for the hearing of cases involving the various city departments. Many of the judges of the various courts in the City are elected, but more than fifty magistrates and judges are appointed by the Mayor.

At present twenty-nine separate city departments and about 100,000 employees of all grades are required to carry on the affairs of New York City.

# I.

## LIVING CONDITIONS IN THE CITY

Persons who come to New York from the country or from villages, towns and small cities find surroundings and living conditions radically different from those obtaining in the places from which they came. Instead of wide, tree-shaded roads and avenues, homes set in the midst of gardens, and the restful quiet to be found in smaller communities, New York City presents narrow streets, lined with rows of large brick and stone buildings, and continuous noise during the day and far into the night.

The density of population in the City on July 1, 1916, as estimated by the Department of Health was 28.4 people per acre. In two of the boroughs which are just being developed the density of population is a great deal less, but in the Boroughs of Manhattan and Brooklyn it is a great deal higher. The estimated average density of population in Manhattan is more than 199 people per acre, and in Brooklyn it is almost 50 per acre. In some wards in the Borough of Manhattan which contain mostly tenement houses, the number of people per acre is in excess of 600, and the Borough of Brooklyn has districts where the density is considerably over 150 people per acre.

This density of population makes it necessary for a very large percentage of the residents of the City to live in apartment houses of various kinds and grades. These apartment houses have accommodations for from three to thirty or more families. The number of rooms in each separate apartment varies from 2 to 10 or more. Only in the best grade apartment houses, however, can apartments with 10 or more rooms be had. The average middle class apartment has five or six rooms and bath. In some of the older houses each apartment has one or more dark rooms. There are almost interminable rows of apartment houses of the various grades. These houses often are built close together so that they present a solid front on the street. For the purpose of admitting air and at least some light to the inner rooms, they are provided with air shafts which extend through the center and sometimes open out to small back yards.

Small houses with gardens can be had in the outlying sections of the City and in the suburbs, but seldom less and often more than eight or ten miles from the important business districts. For people who work in the business districts there is the inconvenience of spending an hour or more on the crowded cars in the morning and evening while going to and from work.

# II.

## COST OF LIVING IN THE CITY

*(Including information regarding Food Supply, Rents, etc.)*

The Central Mercantile Association of New York, which numbers among its members many influential business men, has made an industrial survey of the City, and in its report of the results of this survey appears the following interesting statement regarding the cost of living in New York City:

"The impression is very general, and accepted without question, that New York City has a very high cost of living, and that this high cost is the principal handicap to its industrial advance. A rapid study has been made during the present survey to test the general soundness of this impression.

"The basis for the study is the very carefully tabulated and analyzed information contained in the reports of the United States Bureau of Labor on the average budgets of workmen's families and on the average retail store prices for products. The average expenditures of workmen's families as ascertained from these reports bear the following relations:

| | |
|---|---|
| Food | 45% |
| Rent | 20% |
| Clothing | 14% |
| Other expenses | 21% |

"The reports on food prices made by the Bureau do not substantiate the general impression as to high prices in New York. In only three cities in the Eastern Group are food prices shown to be lower than in New York, viz: Buffalo, Richmond and Baltimore. These are all cities having very special advantages in market systems and water transportation to unusually well developed agricultural districts in the immediate neighborhood. All of the other cities of the east show a higher average price than New York.

"In view of the way in which this result contradicts general impression, it may be well to state again that the conclusion rests upon a very carefully collected body of figures issued by the Federal Government, figures which were secured and tabulated by expert investigators. In all cases the quotations are actual sale prices, taken from a considerable number of stores in each city of the type at which workmen generally deal, and carefully selected so as to give an even basis for comparison. The returns were worked into one final amount giving the total cost of foods for the average family budget, which, in turn, has been ascertained from the actual accounts of thousands of workmen's families of which a special study was made. It is from this final figure of total food cost for the average family that the above comparison is made.

"In clothing, New York is commonly understood to have the advantage in economy over most other cities. This has been borne out by reports from the two general studies that have come under observation. It probably may be safely assumed, therefore, that clothing costs are at least no higher than the average for other cities. Miscellaneous expenses for papers, amusements, doctors' bills, etc., run much the same everywhere.

"Taking the four important sections of the family budget therefore—food, rent, clothing and miscellaneous—New York is not above the average in the three sections, food, clothing and miscellaneous. The only section

in which higher necessary cost of living can come, therefore, is in the rental section. It is frankly admitted by real estate men consulted, who know a number of cities, that rentals in New York are higher than in most other places. The difference is said, however, to be greatly exaggerated in the minds of most people. It would be an important and interesting section of special study in a social survey to make an actual comparison of apartments of the various principal types in several districts of New York City, in comparison with similar facilities in similar localities in other cities. Assuming, however, that New York is at a considerable disadvantage in regard to this item, it cannot have the effect of raising the family budget of the New York workman very greatly above that of other cities. Rent constituting 20% only of the total budget, a 25% higher rental in New York City would mean a larger total family budget of only 5%. This would be an unimportant amount if compared to even slightly higher wages, greater opportunities of steady employment, or greater opportunity for advancement, by reason of New York's greater labor market."

In connection with the foregoing, it may be pointed out that persons who come to New York from smaller communities will find that in the City carfares are an item to be taken into consideration. The vast majority of New Yorkers must employ the various transportation facilities of the City in going to and from work and in traveling about the City on business or pleasure. Therefore in the course of a month the expenditure for carfares sometimes assumes considerable proportions. The fare charged on the subways, surface cars and elevated railways is five cents for one continuous ride in one direction. In many instances free transfers are given on surface cars running north and south to surface cars running east and west and *vice versa*. The elevated railway systems do not generally transfer to the subways or surface cars, nor do the latter transfer to the elevated railways. Persons living in the outlying boroughs often have to pay two or more fares each day to get to and from their places of business in Manhattan; and for persons living in the suburbs the daily expenditure for carfare often is considerably more.

Although clothing of all kinds can be purchased in New York as cheaply as elsewhere, because of the importance placed upon clothes in New York residents of the City are inclined to spend more for clothing than do people who live in the country or in small towns and cities. In a small community where people know one another clothes are not such an important factor, but in New York City clothes often are taken as an index to a person's taste and financial condition, especially in business, and therefore New Yorkers generally find it expedient to dress as well as possible.

Because of the numerous and varied amusements offered in the City few people who come to New York find it possible to resist the temptation of spending more for amusement and recreation than they would elsewhere.

## FOOD SUPPLY

In may be stated as a general proposition that foodstuffs of all varieties can be purchased as cheaply in New York City as elsewhere in the United States. Of course, in certain localities, because of local conditions, special

kinds of foodstuffs may be purchased more cheaply than they could be purchased in New York, but taking into consideration a large variety of foodstuffs of every description, the foregoing should be a safe assertion. The City offers such an immense and steady market, and the wholesale dealers in the City can purchase in such large quantities, that New York gets the first and best of almost everything in the line of foodstuffs. The residents of smaller communities, depending largely on the farms of the immediate vicinity to supply their daily fresh food needs, do not get nearly so wide an assortment of fresh foodstuffs—meats, poultry, fish, vegetables, fruits and berries—as do the residents of New York, for New York draws upon all parts of the country and the world for its food supply. A considerable time before the residents of villages, towns and small cities in the northern and middle states can enjoy the vegetables and fruits grown in those localities, the hot-house farmers and the large produce and fruit growers of the southern states have supplied the New York market with such vegetables and fruits at moderate prices. The fertile Hudson Valley, Long Island and the State of New Jersey within a radius of more than 100 miles of New York City also supply the City with immense quantities of fresh fruits, vegetables and berries in season.

The large Chicago packing concerns have slaughterhouses in New York City to which live cattle, sheep and hogs are shipped for killing, thus insuring New Yorkers a fresh meat supply. Great quantities of fresh poultry are shipped to New York from different parts of the country, and immense quantities of poultry also are stored for use as required in the numerous large cold-storage houses. A considerable part of the fish and other sea food consumed in New York comes from the waters near the City, but large quantities of such food also are received from northern and southern waters.

There are large wholesale and retail markets in the City where produce of all kinds is sold to storekeepers and retail buyers. Within recent years a number of retail markets have been opened in the congested districts on City property under the large bridges, where farmers from Long Island and other places near New York, as well as small retail dealers, display their products for sale to the general public. In the poorer districts "push-cart" peddlers abound. The small carts of these peddlers, loaded with all kinds of foodstuffs, line the streets and avenues of certain sections of the poorer districts, and offer a convenient market for the residents of those districts. Peddlers whose equipment consists of a horse and cart also pass through the residential sections of the City offering vegetables and fruits for sale in season.

The City obtains its milk supply from hundreds of dairies and farms, some of which are located more than 200 miles from the City. Most of the milk is shipped to New York by rail. The residents of the City consume about 2,225,000 quarts of milk per day, almost all of which must come from points outside the City limits. The Department of Health inspects all milk sold in the City, and all individuals or firms who sell milk in New York must receive a written permit from this Department. Inspectors from the Health Department make tests from time to time of the

milk sold in the different stores. There are a number of large milk companies in New York who deliver milk and cream in bottles at house doors. The milk usually is delivered early in the morning, being distributed throughout the City in wagons. Various grades of milk are sold, some of which may be used only for cooking and manufacturing purposes. Much of the milk and cream sold in the City is pasteurized. The Department of Health inspects all pasteurizing plants where milk and cream are treated for subsequent sale in New York, whether such plants are located within or without the City limits. The price of milk delivered in quart bottles varies from 11 cents per quart for a good grade of milk, to 15 cents or more per quart for milk of extra fine quality. Milk of good quality can, however, be purchased in stores for 8 cents per quart.

In all residential sections of the City the important avenues and streets are lined with retail stores of every description, including many which supply the food needs of the local population—butcher stores, fish stores, grocery stores, fruit and vegetable stands, bakeries, dairies and delicatessen stores. In most of these stores a surprising variety of food is displayed for the choice of the purchaser. Such commodities as coffee, tea, sugar, dried fruits and vegetables and canned goods, may of course be had in abundance at all times at moderate prices.

For the person with Epicurean tastes, and with sufficient income to gratify them, New York offers every luxury. There are numerous large provision stores offering all kinds of choice meats, poultry, fish and game, and there are also numerous select grocery stores which carry in stock all the domestic and imported delicacies.

The Health Department also inspects the food, drug and water supply of the City and enforces the strict laws and ordinances relative thereto, as well as sanitary laws, laws relating to the preservation of health and the care and protection of life. This Department also investigates and, when justified, takes action on complaints from citizens concerning conditions that are detrimental to the public health.

The residents of New York City are supplied with an abundance of pure water, which is drawn from points many miles distant from the City limits. At present an elaborate system of reservoirs and aqueducts is in course of construction. This system will draw water from the region of the Katskill Mountains about 100 miles north of the City, and is designed to provide for the water supply of New York for years to come. Most of the water used in New York is supplied by the City, but in the Boroughs of Brooklyn, Queens and Richmond some water is supplied by private water companies.

## DEPARTMENT STORES

The great department stores of the City offer to retail buyers a marvelous variety of merchandise of every description at moderate prices. These stores occupy immense buildings, and derive their name from the fact that they are divided into departments for the selling of special lines of goods. They have separate departments containing complete lines of clothing for men, women and children, dress goods, linens, woolens,

muslins, and, in fact, every variety of wearing apparel and material, house furnishings of all kinds, jewelry, art works, foodstuffs, sporting goods, notions, various kinds of patented devices, machinery, tools, books, plants, seeds, etc., toys, stationery and a great many other things. Many of these large stores have savings banks, restaurants and lunch rooms, lecture rooms, soda fountains, photographic galleries, telephone booths and various other conveniences for their patrons. In fact, the department stores render a surprising amount of service. All of them, without charge to the purchaser, deliver merchandise to any part of the City and for considerable distances outside the City limits, no matter how small or great a quantity is purchased. Some of the department stores carry charge accounts, allowing customers who have been found dependable to buy merchandise without paying for it at the time of purchase and delivery. To these customers bills generally are rendered monthly. As they can purchase in very large quantities, the department stores often are able to offer to the public all kinds of merchandise at considerably reduced prices. All of these stores insert large display advertisements in the daily papers.

The department stores usually are grouped together in the various shopping districts of the City, thus making it convenient for shoppers to visit a number of them in a comparatively short time.

## RENTS

Because of the exceptionally high land values, created by the presence of so many people in an area comparatively small, the rents in New York City undoubtedly are somewhat higher than in other cities. As already pointed out a majority of the people in the City live in apartment buildings of various grades. The cheapest grade apartment buildings are locally known as "tenements"; apartment buildings which offer space at moderate rentals but are better located and offer better accommodations than the tenements are generally referred to as "flats;" the more modern and better equipped buildings of this type are known as "apartments" or "apartment houses."

The tenement houses are very undesirable places in which to live, being located in the poorer and crowded districts of the City. They are occupied in large part by foreigners. Apartments of from two to six rooms can be had in these houses at rentals varying from about $8.00 to about $18.00 per month. The rooms generally are very small and not infrequently some are dark. Many of the tenement houses offer few conveniences or improvements and are not equipped with the best sanitary devices. In some of the more modern tenements the occupants are supplied with hot water.

The flat houses offer apartments of from three to eight rooms at fairly moderate rentals. It is difficult in the Borough of Manhattan to obtain a small flat or apartment containing from four to six rooms and bath for less than $25.00 or $30.00 per month. Consequently many families of moderate means find it desirable to live in one of the other boroughs, where land is less valuable than in Manhattan and where, as a result,

rents are cheaper. In the other boroughs the minimum rents for flats such as described range from about $14.00 to $25.00 per month, according to location, accommodations, etc. Steam-heated flats are as a rule somewhat more expensive. In most of the flats tenants are, however, supplied with hot water.

The apartment houses (of which there are various grades) usually are to be found in the better sections of the City. The more moderate priced apartment houses offering steam heat, hot water supply and telephone service rent for from about $420.00 to $540.00 per annum. In the better grade apartment houses, located in the best residential sections of the City, and offering elevator service, telephone service, steam heat, hot water, larger rooms and better equipment, the rents are high, ranging from about $600.00 per annum upward to $10,000.00 per annum or more, depending, of course, upon location, accommodations, size and number of rooms and conveniences offered. Some of the apartments in the high grade houses of this type contain 12 or more rooms and three or four baths, and offer every modern convenience.

All the apartment buildings in the City, from the lowest to the highest grade, come under the jurisdiction of the Tenement House Department of the City. No new apartment house may be erected, or no existing apartment building altered, or no building of any kind may be converted into an apartment building unless the plans and specifications for the work in contemplation have first been approved by the Tenement House Department. This Department sees to it that the rigid laws and ordinances as to fireproofing, ventilation and light and sanitary equipment are properly observed in the construction of buildings of this kind. All the apartment buildings in the City are regularly inspected by inspectors from the Tenement House Department to make sure that all the requirements of law are strictly observed.

In the Borough of Manhattan the minimum rentals for private houses containing from eight to twelve rooms range from about $60.00 to $150.00 per month, and the rentals for large private houses located in the fashionable parts of the borough range from about $200.00 per month upward. In the other boroughs the rents for private houses generally are materially less. Outside the Borough of Manhattan there are also numerous two- and three-family houses, sections of which may be had for from $25.00 per month upward.

The rentals for furnished rooms in New York vary according to the size of the room, furnishings and the locality in which the house is situated. Small hall rooms, just large enough to hold a bed, chiffonier and one or two chairs, may be had for from $2.00 per week upward. For larger and better furnished rooms the rentals, of course, are greater. There are boarding houses where a small room and board may be had as low as $5.00 per week, but these are not always desirable. Good accommodations and food seldom can be had for less than $6.00 per week. There are various institutions such as the Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., working girls' clubs and other similar institutions where good living accommodations may be had at moderate rentals and where excellent restaurant facilities are provided at moderate rates.

A plan followed by some people is to rent a small furnished room and get meals at one of the moderate-priced restaurants which abound in all parts of the City. Most of these restaurants make special prices for regular customers.

## HOTELS

New York City is famous for the number and quality of its hotels. The large fashionable hotels, of which there are many, are beautifully furnished and offer their guests every modern convenience and luxury. In some of these hotels the minimum charge for a single room with bath is $2.00 or $2.50 per day, without meals, and for larger and better accommodations the charges range very much higher. Meals in these hotels also are expensive. There are, however, a great number of excellent hotels in which a single room can be had for a dollar per day or for $1.50 per day with bath. Most of the hotels make special rates for guests who stay for extended periods and for permanent guests. Numerous cheaper hotels offer rooms at 50 cents, 75 cents and $1.00 per day. There are in the City three Mills Hotels, exclusively for men. In two of these, rooms may be had for 20 cents or 30 cents per day, and in the other (which offers better accommodations and is more centrally located) the rooms are 30 cents and 40 cents per day. Good meals may be had in these hotels for 25 cents each and less. The Mills Hotels were built by Mr. D. O. Mills, a wealthy philanthropist. They are generally self-supporting. The largest of these hotels has more than 1,875 bedrooms. One large hotel in the City accepts only women as guests. There also are apartment hotels which offer apartments of two or more rooms and which have restaurant facilities.

## RESTAURANTS

There are thousands of restaurants scattered all over the City. They include the luxurious eating places on Fifth Avenue and Broadway, in which the prices are extremely high, and the buffet lunchrooms, in which the prices are very moderate. Excellent restaurants supplying good meals for 75 cents or $1.00 are numerous. More moderate priced restaurants offering regular meals (usually consisting of meat or fish, potatoes, vegetable, dessert and a beverage) for 25 cents or 30 cents and upward can be found in all parts of the City. There are also thousands of quick lunchrooms, many of which are located in the business districts. These lunchrooms offer a great variety of dishes. Few of the dishes cost more than 25 cents and most of them cost from 10 cents to 20 cents. In the buffet lunchrooms, of which there are also a great many, patrons serve themselves from counters on which the food is displayed. These lunchrooms usually are fitted out with long rows of chairs, each chair having a wide arm on the right hand side on which to place the food while eating. In lunchrooms of this type there are offered sandwiches, pies, puddings, various kinds of cake and beverages, each item being five or ten cents. The majority of such lunchrooms also prepare special dishes consisting of meat or fish and vegetable costing from 10 cents to 25 cents each. Many of the buffet lunchrooms are open day and night.

# III.

## EMPLOYMENT

Because it is such a great business, financial, commercial and manufacturing center, New York City offers a wide field for the most varied business activity as well as for employment. It should be remembered, however, that the City attracts many ambitious and capable people from all parts of the country and of the world, and there are thousands of such people in the City who are determined to excel and who are constantly planning and devising means for success and attainment; so that to be signally successful in New York City a person generally must be exceptionally capable. Work is done at high tension in New York, and the New York employer requires of his employees that they be not only thorough but quick. In smaller communities an employee who does his work acceptably, even though he shows no marked ability or initiative, often can hold a position indefinitely, but in New York City, where competition is very keen, employers generally expect that their employees steadily improve, keep informed of all developments in their line of business and show initiative, resource and capacity to assume greater responsibilities.

In some cities preference is given to native sons. This is not the case in New York, as the population of the City is in large part composed of people from all sections of the country and of the world. New York employers do not so often ask "Where do you come from?" or "Who are you?" as "What can you do?"

Salaries and wages in New York City are at least as high as those paid in most other large cities and certainly higher than those generally paid in towns and small cities; and the opportunities for advancement in almost all lines of business are practically unlimited for people of capacity and initiative.

The hours of work in many offices are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. In others they are somewhat longer—from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and in some instances even from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. An hour usually is granted for luncheon. During the summer months Saturday is observed as a half holiday, and within recent years it is beginning to be very generally observed as such all through the year by a great many large business houses in the City. In the case of factory workers, shop workers, mechanics, laborers, etc., the eight-hour day is very generally observed in New York.

### OBTAINING EMPLOYMENT IN THE CITY

Many people unfamiliar with conditions in New York have the impression that, because the City is so large and is the center of the business activity of the country, it necessarily must be easy to obtain employment there. Undoubtedly in the course of a year hundreds of people who have

this impression come to New York, and because they have no relatives or friends in the City to advise and assist them, or because they lack sufficient funds upon which to live during the weeks when they are seeking employment, they fail in their purpose of gaining a footing in the City. It must be remembered that competition is very keen in New York. Sometimes people with special abilities obtain employment quickly, but people who have no special attainments very often search for employment for weeks without obtaining it. The best that can be done in the way of assisting people desirous of obtaining employment in New York is to point out the various means and methods by which employment may be obtained. Information along these lines will be found below:

Sometimes excellent positions are obtained by answering the "Employees Wanted" or "Help Wanted" advertisements which are inserted each day in the various newspapers of the City. These advertisements generally appear in the morning papers. While the answering of such advertisements is well worth the while of anyone desirous of obtaining employment, results are not always certain, and often, especially during times of business depression, an applicant must write many letters before receiving even a promising reply or a request to call for an interview. To avoid being troubled with interviewing the scores of applicants who generally respond to their advertisements, employers usually have all answers sent to a letter-box in the newspaper office. Such boxes generally are designated only by a number and letter. By following this plan, employers can look over the answers received to their advertisements, select those answers which indicate that the applicants meet with the requirements of the position to be filled, and write only to such applicants to call for an interview. The applicant who answers such "want" advertisements therefore seldom knows to whom he is writing and has no means of getting in touch with the advertiser unless the letter of application is answered.

The newspapers of the City also carry advertisements under the heading "Situations Wanted," which afford persons desiring employment an opportunity to set forth their qualifications to employers. If worded properly, such advertisements frequently bring results. The charge for advertisements of this kind is comparatively moderate. An insertion of five lines, each line containing six or seven words, can be had for one day for one dollar or less, depending upon the paper selected. Many trade journals are published in New York, and persons desiring employment in special lines of work frequently can employ these journals to advantage.

There are in the City a great many private employment agencies, which often are able to obtain good positions for applicants. Many of these agencies advertise in the newspapers. Employment agencies are licensed by the Department of Licenses of the City of New York, and there is a State Law indicating how they shall be regulated and what fees they may charge. The books of these agencies are subject to inspection by Inspectors of the Department of Licenses. Private employment agencies are not permitted to charge unskilled workers more than 10% of the first month's wages, and the charges for obtaining positions for other applicants for employment must not exceed the amount of the first week's wages, except

when the period of employment is for at least one year, and at a yearly salary, in which event the gross fee charged shall not exceed 5% of the first year's salary. When the employment is of a temporary nature, and does not exceed in any single contract one month, then the fee must not exceed 10% of the salary paid. The proprietors or managers of private employment agencies who overcharge persons for whom they obtain employment are liable to heavy fine and in some instances to imprisonment. If an applicant for help or employment does not obtain help or receive employment through the agency to which he has applied, any fee that he paid in advance to the agency must be returned to him in full within three days. Private employment agencies must give any applicant for employment a receipt for any fees paid by him. Applicants who have ground for complaint against any licensed employment agency or bureau may apply to the Commissioner of Licenses of the City and obtain a hearing. Some of the employment agencies and bureaus specialize in obtaining employment for office workers, and others obtain positions only for domestics and unskilled workers.

The City of New York also operates a Public Employment Bureau, with branch offices in various parts of the City. This bureau renders service to employers and employees absolutely without cost to either. Employers who are in need of assistants register with the bureau, and applicants for employment are required to fill out blanks, giving name, age, education, experience, names of former employers, references, etc. Positions are obtained for both skilled and unskilled workers—for persons in the building, mechanical and technical trades; engineering, agricultural, hotel, mercantile, professional, restaurant and transportation help; stenographers, bookkeepers, and laborers for light and heavy work. Only reliable and temperate applicants who can furnish A-1 references are given consideration. The Bureau has done excellent service since it was established in 1914. Of course, it cannot obtain positions for all who apply, but it has been successful in placing a good percentage of its applicants.

The State of New York conducts free employment bureaus in various parts of the State, for the purpose of bringing together all kinds and classes of workmen in search of employment and employers seeking labor. One branch is located in the Borough of Brooklyn. This bureau also obtains employment for both skilled and unskilled workers, professional people and office assistants, and also has placed a good percentage of its applicants.

Free employment agencies for both men and women also are conducted by the various settlement houses and other philanthropic institutions in the City.

The Young Men's Christian Association and other similar institutions operate employment bureaus. The fees charged by these institutions for registering applicants are very moderate. They often are able to obtain excellent positions for applicants.

## CIVIL SERVICE

Many attractive Civil Service positions are to be had in New York City. The City employs about 100,000 people, including executives, technical men, office workers, teachers, policemen, firemen, street cleaners,

laborers, etc. More than 20,000 United States Government employees are stationed within the limits of the City, as well as about 5,000 employees of the State of New York. A large percentage of the positions in all three branches of the public service above referred to may be obtained by passing Civil Service examinations. The examinations given by the City, the State and the Federal Government to applicants for employment are in all respects fair. In most instances specimen questions given at previous examinations can be obtained. All three branches issue pamphlets giving detailed information regarding the examinations, questions asked, rating of papers, passing marks, requirements for admission to examinations and other particulars.

The City or Municipal Government requires that all applicants for positions in the Municipal service be citizens of the United States and residents of the State of New York at the time of filing application. Occasionally the latter requirement is waived, but then it is provided that applicants who are appointed become residents of New York State prior to the date of their appointment.

The State of New York requires that applicants for examination by the State Civil Service Commission be citizens of the United States and residents of the State of New York for at least three months just prior to the date of the examination. On rare occasions the requirements as to citizenship are waived.

With regard to the Federal Civil Service, applicants are required to be citizens of the United States. Applicants for Federal positions who desire to be appointed in New York City, need not be residents of the City or State of New York at the time of taking the examination or after appointment.

The requirements as to citizenship in all three branches of the public service are very much alike. Applicants who claim to be born in the United States make oath to that effect in their applications; naturalized citizens must submit their naturalization papers; minors who claim citizenship through the naturalization of a parent must supply the parent's naturalization papers and in some instances affidavits establishing the relationship; women who claim citizenship through marriage must, in instances where the husband is a naturalized citizen, submit his papers, and where the husband is native born, oath to that effect must be made, and the Federal Government requires that the marriage certificate and certain affidavits be submitted.

In all three divisions of the public service mentioned above (Municipal, State and Federal), applicants are required to be of good moral character and physically qualified to perform the duties which would be required of them if appointed. Each applicant must have his application signed by persons who certify as to his character and ability. These persons, known as vouchers, must be twenty-one years of age or over (either male or female), not related to the applicant.

The City requires four such vouchers, who must be residents of or have a place of business in New York City, and provides that no person who keeps a liquor saloon may act as a voucher.

The State requires three such vouchers, who must have known the applicant for at least one year, and must be well acquainted with the experience, ability and character of the applicant.

The Federal Government requires two vouchers. There are no restrictions as to residence of the persons who sign as vouchers, but it is required that they shall have been acquainted with the applicant not less than six months.

Applicants for examination in all three branches of the public service are required to swear to the truth of the statements made in the applications.

Certain age limits are prescribed for all Civil Service examinations. These limits vary, depending upon the nature of the work. Sometimes the minimum age limit is seventeen years and sometimes no maximum age limit is stated. For a number of the examinations the maximum age limit is 40 years.

The passing mark in Civil Service examinations usually is 70%. Generally there are certain subjects of an examination in which applicants must receive at least a certain minimum percentage or their papers will not be rated, no matter how well they may have done in other subjects of the examination. The names of all applicants receiving a general average of 70% or over are placed on an eligible list, those having the highest percentages appearing at the head of the list and consequently receiving the first chance of appointment. As a rule eligible lists are in force one year, but sometimes they are extended to run for longer periods. The fact that a person's name appears on an eligible list for a Civil Service position does not always mean that employment is certain, for so many applicants take the various Civil Service examinations that in many instances employment is doubtful unless a good percentage is obtained. Sometimes even those applicants who stand well up on a list must wait weeks and even months before an appointment is received. Appointments usually are made at minimum salaries for the various positions, but this does not hold good in all cases. To test their fitness, Civil Service employees are appointed for a probationary period of three months in the City and State Service and one year in the United States Government Service. Employees retained after the probationary period has expired are permanently appointed. A Civil Service employee may be dismissed only for very good reasons, which must be fully stated in writing. The employee concerned is informed of the reasons presented and is given an opportunity to reply and make explanation.

Civil Service employees generally receive at least a living wage, and in many instances are better paid than persons doing a similar grade of work for private concerns.

Due to deaths, resignations, dismissals and to the constant creation of new public bureaus and departments (especially in the City and State governments) there are frequent changes in and additions to the personnel of the great body of Civil Service employees located in the City of New York. Hence examinations are held frequently and persons able to qualify with a high percentage have a good chance of obtaining appointments.

Positions paying from about $600.00 to $1,500.00 per annum are the most numerous, and examinations for such positions are most frequently held.

Because of the rigid rules governing increases in salary and advancement in grade, promotion in the case of energetic and exceptional capable people often is not so rapid as it would be in private enterprises, but employment in the Civil Service generally is sure for persons who properly attend to their duties.

Many of the positions in the Civil Service are open to both men and women.

There are in the City many schools which make a specialty of coaching and instructing persons who desire to take Civil Service examinations. These schools are conducted by private individuals and charge for the instruction given. None of the schools have any official connection with the Municipal, State or Federal governments. They merely give applicants the benefit of their special knowledge and experience. Many of these schools advertise in the New York papers.

Two weekly papers dealing entirely with Civil Service matters are published in New York City. These papers give complete detailed information regarding Civil Service examinations in all branches. They also publish text books giving useful information as to various examinations.

## SOME NEW YORK STATE LAWS SAFEGUARDING THE INTERESTS OF EMPLOYEES

The New York State laws referred to below are, of course, effective in the City of New York.

In all parts of the State of New York eight hours constitute a legal day's work for almost all classes of employees. Exceptions are made with regard to farm and domestic laborers, employees of steam and electric railways, grocery clerks, drug clerks and employees in brickyards. There is, of course, no provision against overtime work for extra compensation.

The New York State laws provide that women shall not be employed in mercantile establishments or factories more than six days or more than fifty-four hours in any one week, or more than nine hours in any one day. Women may, however, be employed 10 hours per day for not more than five days per week in order to make a short day or holiday on one of the six working days of the week, or irregularly in not more than three days per week. Special provision is made for longer hours of work by women employed in the canning industries between June 15th and October 15th.

No child under the age of fourteen years may be employed in factories or mercantile establishments in the State of New York. Children under the age of sixteen years are required to obtain employment certificates before they may be employed in any mercantile establishment or factory. Such employment certificates are issued by the health authorities of the village, town or city in which the child resides. Certificates are issued only after the authorities have satisfied themselves as to the child's age,

physical fitness and education. The law provides that children under sixteen years of age may not be employed more than eight hours per day, or before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m. of any day. Before and after school hours, boys over twelve years of age may be employed to carry and distribute newspapers.

All the factories in the State of New York are carefully inspected to see that the rigid State laws as to fire protection, sanitary conditions, ventilation, etc., are properly observed.

In New York State employees are preferred creditors in the distribution of assets under assignments. Such preference is given to wages or salaries due to employees at the time of the execution of the assignment, for services rendered within three months previous to the execution, but not in excess of $300.00 to each employee.

There are State laws governing the actions of persons, firms or corporations engaged in the business of loaning money to employees on account of salary or wages to be earned in the future, or on personal effects. The rates of interest which may be charged for such loans also are fixed by law.

The following are the Public Holidays in New York State:

| | |
|---|---|
| New Year's Day | January 1st. |
| Lincoln's Birthday | February 12th. |
| Washington's Birthday | February 22nd. |
| Memorial or Decoration Day | May 30th. |
| Independence Day | July 4th. |
| Labor Day | The first Monday in September. |
| Columbus Day | October 12th. |
| Election Day | The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. |
| Thanksgiving Day | Designated by the President—last Thursday in November. |
| Christmas Day | December 25th. |

When any of these days (except, of course, Election Day and Thanksgiving Day) fall on a Sunday the following Monday generally is observed as a holiday.

Employers who do not observe Election Day as a holiday are required by law to grant their male employees of voting age two hours in which to vote.

There is in force in the State of New York a Workmen's Compensation Law. This law provides that under certain conditions, individuals, firms and corporations employing men and women in hazardous occupations must pay certain specified amounts to any of their employees who are accidentally injured in the discharge of duty, or to the relatives or dependents of any employee who dies as the result of accidental injuries so received. No compensation is allowed, however, when the injury results from the willful intention of the injured employee to bring about the injury or death of himself or of another, or where the injury results solely from the intoxication of the injured employee while on duty.

The various hazardous employments, of which there are about 42 groups, including almost all lines of railroad work, manufacturing, con-

struction work, etc., are specified. The amounts to be paid for all injuries, as well as the amounts to be paid to relatives or dependents in the event of death, are also specified in detail.

When an employer and his employees agree to the compensation plan and the employer fulfills his obligations under the act, the employees are obliged to take compensation as provided by the act. If, however, there is no such agreement, and the employer has failed to insure compensation to his employees as outlined in the act, then any of his employees who are injured in the course of their employment have the right either to claim compensation under the act or to sue for damages at common law.

There is also an Employer's Liability Law, which indicates the grounds on which employers are liable for injuries to employees resulting from defective machinery or negligence; indicates methods of providing insurance, or generally outlines the various obligations of employers.

It was the aim of the framers of these laws to make them as fair as possible to both employees and employer. Before these laws went into effect an employee accidentally injured in the course of his employment either had to accept whatever his employer considered wise to offer in settlement or had to take his case to the courts. The latter course often was expensive and uncertain, because of the legal technicalities and also because the employer generally could retain more capable counsel than the employee.

# IV.

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED IN THE CITY

At an annual expense of many millions of dollars, the City of New York offers to all its residents free educational opportunities that are unsurpassed anywhere in the world. There is given below a brief outline of the scope of the City's free educational system, from which outline it will be seen that ambitious people, by taking advantage of the generous facilities offered by the City, can obtain even a college education without expenditure for tuition. Aside from the numerous free educational opportunities offered by the City itself, there are in New York many privately controlled institutions which offer free educational opportunities. In addition, there are institutions such as the Young Men's Christian Association and Young Women's Christian Association which offer many helpful courses of study in the day and evening at very moderate tuition fees. It is hardly necessary to mention that New York City is well supplied with colleges and private schools and academies of every description offering instruction or training in all branches of learning, in the sciences, arts, crafts and trades.

The Department of Education of the City of New York has supervision over the following free educational activities:

### KINDERGARTEN AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The Kindergartens receive children between the ages of four and six years. The elementary schools receive children who are six years or over. In addition to the usual elementary subjects, in certain classes of the elementary schools instruction is given in music, sewing, cooking and modern languages. In some of the schools there are separate classes for children who are mentally defective, blind, deaf, crippled or defective in speech. In these classes children who are laboring under any of the handicaps mentioned are systematically instructed by teachers trained in handling such children. In this way much is done by the City to help develop and educate children so afflicted. For mentally defective children a farm school is conducted on one of the smaller islands near the City. There are also open air classes for anemic and tuberculous children.

Evening sessions also are held at the elementary schools. To these sessions boys and girls and men and women are admitted. No person is admitted to an evening school unless his age or occupation is such as to prevent attendance at a day school. In the evening the hours are from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. for men and boys and from 7:45 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. for women and girls, four nights a week with the exception of Friday and Saturday. The subjects taught are English (including reading, spelling, meaning and use of words, and composition), arithmetic and other common branches, also penmanship, bookkeeping, stenography, drawing, sewing, millinery, dressmaking and cooking.

During the summer vacation season a number of the elementary public schools in various sections of the City are kept open for the purpose of

supplementing the work of the regular school season. In these Vacation Schools classes known as "Opportunity Classes" are conducted. In these classes instruction is given to pupils who are backward in their studies during the regular school season; to foreign pupils who need help in English; to pupils who must complete a certain period of attendance at the elementary public schools in order to obtain an employment certificate, and pupils who receive high marks during the regular school season and desire to continue their studies. The usual elementary subjects are taught in the Vacation Schools.

### VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

The object of these schools is to train boys for positions in the trades and for industrial work generally. Instruction usually is given in the daytime, although one of the vocational schools has evening sessions. Boys who have graduated from the elementary schools are eligible for admission to the vocational schools on the presentation of their graduation cards. Boys over 14 years who have not graduated are admitted under certain conditions. The following are some of the trade subjects in which instruction and training are given: Woodwork, Machine Shop Practice, Sheet Metal Work, Electric Work, Mechanical Drawing, Printing, etc.

There is also a trade school for girls, which is open to graduates of the elementary schools or girls who are over 14 years old and who have received a certain amount of elementary instruction. This school has day and evening sessions. Training is offered in the following trades: Dressmaking, Millinery, Clothing Machine Operating, Straw Machine Operating, Embroidery Machine Operating, Sample Mounting, Novelty Work, Lamp Shade Making. In connection with the training for the trades mentioned the girls also receive practice in Designing and Perforating for Embroidery, Drawing and Costume Designing, Cooking, Physical Training, Business Arithmetic and Accounts, Business English, Textiles, Industrial Conditions and Trade Ethics.

### HIGH SCHOOLS AND TRADE SCHOOLS

After having completed their studies in the elementary schools pupils are eligible for admission to the City's free high schools. The high schools also receive pupils who have completed in schools not under the control of the Board of Education an eight-year elementary course substantially equivalent to the course in the City's elementary schools. Applicants over 21 years of age are referred to the superintendent in charge of high schools for permission to attend. Among the subjects taken up in the general four year course given in the High Schools of the City are the following: English, Latin, German and French, Mathematics, including Algebra, Plane Geometry and advanced mathematics, Science, including Biology, Botany, Zoology and Physiology, Physics and Chemistry, Drawing, History—Ancient and Modern—Music, Physical Training, as well as various special subjects. Some of the Public High Schools give special

courses in commercial subjects and others give special courses in manual training and technical branches.

Trades are taught in various public school buildings. To the evening trade schools "those only are admitted who are not in attendance at any day school and who are employed during the day at the trade in which they desire instruction." The following trades are taught in these schools: Carpentry, Joinery, Cabinet Making, Pattern Making, Blacksmithing, Plumbing, Machine Shop Work, Printing and Typesetting, Linotype Operating, Steam Engineering, Electric Wiring and Installation, Tile-Laying, Dressmaking, Millinery and Domestic Science, and instruction also is given in Mathematics, Free-hand, Architectural and Mechanical Drawing, Machine Design, Applied Electricity, Industrial Chemistry, Applied Physics, etc.

A school known as the New York Evening School of Industrial Art offers "free instruction in branches of drawing and design as the latter are applied to the various industries." The school is intended especially for men and women who desire instruction and practice in decorative art work. Instruction is given in Book Illustration, Costume Design, Elementary Drawing, Advanced Drawing, Interior Decoration. Jewelry Design, Modeling and Sculpture, Mural Decoration, Poster and Advertising Design, Principles of Design, Stained Glass Design and Textile Design. Applicants are required to demonstrate their fitness for the special training they desire to undertake.

### TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR TEACHERS

These schools are open to both sexes. There are three such schools in the City. Their function is to train young men and women to become teachers in the City's elementary schools. Candidates for admission must be at least 16½ years of age at the time of entrance and must declare their intention to prepare for teaching in the public schools of the State of New York. Before being eligible for admission to a Teachers' Training School a candidate must hold at least "a diploma of graduation from a high school or academy having a four years' course of study approved by the State Commissioner of Education, or a diploma from an institution of higher rank approved by the same authority." Each applicant for admission to a teachers' training school must present a certificate signed by the principal of the high school from which he or she graduated, to the effect that the applicant is fitted by character and disposition to properly perform the duties of a teacher. When notified to do so, candidates must report for a physical examination to one of the physicians appointed by the Board of Education of the City of New York. In these schools instruction is given in the daytime.

### HUNTERS COLLEGE

This college is open to women only. "It receives as students all applicants who are residents of any of the boroughs of Greater New York, and who can meet the requirements for admission. The College provides

a four years' academic course which is based upon a four years' high school course and leads to the degree of A.B. One of the chief purposes of the institution is to encourage young women having a liberal college education to engage in the work of teaching in elementary and secondary schools." Candidates for admission to Hunters College must either pass its entrance examinations or present credentials such as high or preparatory school diplomas, indicating that they have covered the subjects required. There are no evening sessions at Hunters College.

### COLLEGE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

This college is a free institution maintained by the City of New York for the higher education of the young men of the City. The following is quoted from the bulletin of the college:

> "The College offers two general courses of study, one leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), the latter leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.S.). These general courses are designed to give a thorough college training on broad and liberal lines; to give the student in the upper classes an opportunity to follow a well-defined group of subjects leading toward a definitely chosen life work; to qualify him for entering with advanced standing a professional or technical school upon graduation from the College; and to furnish him with a thorough training in those technological branches for which the science departments are well equipped."

The activities of the College include:

College of Arts and Science, Day Session.
College of Arts and Science, Night Session.
College Extension Course for Teachers.
College Preparatory High School.

The same ground is covered in the Evening Session as in the Day Session, and the rules for admission, courses, credits and discipline are the same for both. The professors and instructors for the Evening Session are drawn from the regular College staff. Because the hours available for work in the evening are fewer, it takes longer to secure a degree in the evening.

The College Extension Courses for Teachers were organized "to assist the teachers of the City to extend their culture and to secure the additional knowledge and skill necessary to obtain higher licenses."

The College Preparatory School accepts as students boys graduating from the Elementary Schools of the City of New York.

Entrance to the College may be had by passing the entrance examinations, or "(1) by presenting certificates from the New York City High Schools or from other accepted High Schools, (2) by presenting a College Entrance Diploma issued by the New York State Education Department, or (3) by presenting certificates of the College Entrance Examination Board."

As the result of a resolution of the Board of Trustees of the College, men who are not regularly enrolled in the College may be admitted to

any particular course or courses which they may choose. This special privilege is open to male students, twenty-one years or over, who are actual residents of New York City. Candidates are required to meet in full the regular entrance requirements of the College, and the officials of the College must be satisfied that such students are fully equipped to take up the course or courses chosen.

### VACATION PLAYGROUNDS

The Department of Education also has charge of the vacation playgrounds of the City. There are some 200 of such playgrounds, including indoor, open air and mothers' and babies' playgrounds. These playgrounds generally are in charge of teachers employed by the City, who supervise the activities of the children and instruct them in games, athletic exercises, folk dances, etc. For the smaller children there are swings, slides and sand piles. In the indoor playgrounds there are game rooms where the children can play checkers and other games.

### RECREATION CENTERS

Within recent years certain of the public schools of the City have been used as recreation centers in the evening, especially in the congested districts. In these centers are conducted gymnastic and athletic classes, as well as classes in dancing for both men and women. Game rooms, reading rooms and meeting rooms for clubs also are provided. The activities at these centers are supervised by teachers in the employ of the City.

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## PUBLIC LIBRARIES, MUSEUMS AND LECTURES

The public libraries and museums of the City offer opportunities for research and study unequalled anywhere in the United States, and the public lectures, which are given under the direction of the Department of Education, are another of the City's important educational features. General information regarding public libraries, museums and lectures will be found below.

### PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The New York Public Library (a corporation which controls the free public libraries in the Boroughs of Manhattan, The Bronx and Richmond) has a large central building and more than forty branches. At present the corporation owns more than 2,400,000 books, including many valuable volumes. The Central Building of the New York Public Library is a magnificent white marble structure located in the heart of the Borough of Manhattan. This great building contains almost 1,000,000 books and more than 300,000 pamphlets. The Main Reading Room is a vast room which can accommodate hundreds of readers. In addition to the Main

Reading Room the Central Building has various rooms set aside for special purposes. There is a large Picture Gallery, containing many fine oil paintings, rare prints, etchings and other works of art; an American History Room, where many rare and valuable volumes, pamphlets, maps, etc., may be consulted; a Map Room, containing a wide assortment of maps; a Geneology and Local History Room, containing numerous valuable geneological books as well as books dealing with the local history of New York and other states; a Manuscript Room, in which are displayed the original manuscripts of great American authors and statesmen; a Music Room; a Public Document Room, containing a great number of documents and books published by various municipalities, states and by the United States Government; a Patent Room, containing records of American and foreign patents; a room devoted to books on Science; a room in which are kept books on technical subjects; a Periodical Room; a Newspaper Room, with files of hundreds of American and foreign papers; a Children's Room; a room for books on economics and sociology; an Oriental Literature Room; a Jewish Literature Room; a Slavonic Literature Room; a "reading" room for the blind, where persons so afflicted have an opportunity of "reading" from raised letters—and various other special rooms. The Central Building also has a wide selection of books in foreign languages. The books contained in the various rooms are for reference purposes only and are not loaned to readers to take out of the Library.

The Central Building also has a Circulation Department where books may be borrowed by members.

The Main Reading Room and certain of the other rooms of the Central Building are open every day of the year, on week days from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Each of the Branch Libraries contains a wide assortment of books, including text books, reference books, histories, biographies, technical books, books on all branches of learning—the fine arts, the useful arts, philosophy, travel, works of fiction—and books in foreign languages. The branch libraries vary in size, some containing from 8,000 to 10,000 volumes and others as many as 25,000 or 30,000 volumes. Separate departments for adults and children are maintained in the branch libraries.

Branch libraries are open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on week days, and some branches are open on all holidays.

Persons with a home or business address in the City have the privilege of borrowing books of the New York Public Library. Applicants for library cards entitling them to borrow books must fill out a blank form with particulars as to name, residence, etc., and must give the name of a responsible person to whom the library can refer. A library card entitles the holder to take out books in any of the branch libraries as well as in the Central Building. There is no charge whatever in connection with the joining of a public library or the taking out of books. When books are kept longer than the allotted two weeks small fines are imposed. Many books are renewable for an additional two weeks without charge.

The Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens each have separate Public Library Systems similar in most respects to the New York Public Library.

The Brooklyn Public Library has a large Main Reading Room and more than thirty branches. The Queens Public Library has about twenty branches. The requirements for joining these libraries, hours, etc., are in general similar to those of the New York Public Library.

In addition to the free Public Libraries referred to, there are in all the boroughs numerous free libraries and reading rooms maintained by private individuals or by charitable or benevolent institutions.

## MUSEUMS

There are a number of historic, scientific and art museums located in various parts of the City. Some of the historic old mansions in the City have been converted into museums for the display of Revolutionary relics. The two largest museums are The Metropolitan Museum of Art and the American Museum of Natural History, both immense institutions containing millions of dollars worth of exhibits. To make a careful examination of the objects displayed in these museums would require months of time.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art is a veritable treasure house of rare and valuable works of art of every description. It contains priceless paintings, large collections of ancient and modern sculpture, porcelains, pottery, gems and jewelry, miniatures, ivory work, tapestries, enamels, Egyptian, Grecian, Roman and other ancient art works, various kind of decorative art works, exhibitions of arms and armor, and many other art treasures. The Museum also has a library containing about 70,000 books and photographs. Occasionally large private collections of art treasures are loaned to the Museum to be exhibited for the benefit of the public. The Museum is maintained principally by endowments and donations of private individuals and by money appropriated by the City. The affairs of the Museum are managed by a Board of Directors, of which the Mayor, the Comptroller and the President of the Park Board of the City are ex-officio members. The Museum is open week days and Sundays. Admission is free except on Mondays and Fridays. On these days 25 cents admission is charged.

The American Museum of Natural History contains extensive collections of insects, birds, fish and animals of all kinds, as well as collections of minerals and meteorites, implements used by the savages of all countries, and various other interesting collections. Numerous expeditions to all parts of the world are sent out by the Museum in order to make explorations and obtain specimens. The Museum is managed and maintained in much the same way as the Metropolitan Museum of Art. It is open to visitors on week days and Sundays. Admission is free at all times.

## PUBLIC LECTURES

Free Public Lectures are given under the direction of the Department of Education from October 1st to May 1st, in the Public Schools, Libraries and in other buildings offered or rented for that purpose. They are, of course, given in the evening. Some of the lectures are scholarly talks,

others are illustrated with colored slides and some are illustrated with moving pictures. For the benefit of foreigners who do not understand English, lectures also are given in German, Italian and Yiddish.

The following figures, taken from the report of the Supervisor of Lectures for the year 1914-1915, will convey some idea of the scope of this work:

> "Lectures were delivered in 176 centers, by 771 lecturers speaking on 1,840 topics, before 5,515 audiences. The total attendance was 1,295,907, an average of 235 per lecture."

The subjects on which lectures were given are too numerous to detail here. In might be stated, however, that the topics discussed included the Fine Arts, Literature, History, Social Subjects, Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry, Geology, Biology, First Aid to the Injured, Prevention of Tuberculosis and other health topics, Industries, and Geography, embracing all parts of the world.

Numerous free lectures also are given at various benevolent and other institutions in the City.

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The special mention of the following educational institutions, which are not part of the public school system of the City, should not be interpreted to mean that there are not many other educational institutions in New York City maintaining standards just as high. These institutions are specially mentioned because they present unusual features:

### COOPER UNION

This is one of the most interesting and valuable educational institutions in New York City. It was founded in 1859 by the well-known philanthropist, Peter Cooper, for the advancement of science and art. Its affairs are conducted by a Board of Trustees. Cooper Union offers instruction free, but students are required to supply their own books, drawing materials, etc. Students in the technical branches also are required to make deposits not exceeding $10.00 per annum to cover the use of chemicals and breakage of apparatus in the Chemical and Testing Laboratories. Cooper Union confers the degree of Bachelor of Science and also awards diplomas for the successful completion of the various courses given. The school conducts the following:

A Free Day School of Technical Science, in which is given a four years' course of study "which is designed with reference to the needs of students (both male and female) who intend to follow Civil, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering. The instruction is given by lectures, recitations and laboratory work."

A Free Night School of Science, in which are given "a five-year course in General Science (Civil and Mechanical Engineering), a six-year course in Chemistry, a five-year course in Electrical Engineering, a three-year course in Mechanical Drawing."

(Applicants for admission to the Day and Night Schools of Science must be at least sixteen years of age and must pass the entrance examinations of the school. Application for admission may be made by mail or in person, beginning January 11th and ending September 11th each year.)

A Night School of Art, offering instruction and training in the following: Free-hand Drawing, Modeling, Decorative Design, Architectural Drawing. Applicants for admission must be at least 16 years of age. Women are admitted to the class in the Architectural Department.

A Woman's Art School, in which instruction is given in the day time. Applicants must be at least 16 years old and not over 35.

A Day School of Stenography for Women.

A Day School of Telegraphy for Women.

A Night Class in Elocution for Men and Women.

A Night Class in Oratory and Debate for Men.

Students at Cooper Union need not be residents of New York City.

No arrangement is made for the care of students except during school hours.

The various classes usually are crowded to capacity, and there is generally a waiting list.

Cooper Union also has a free reading room and library, as well as a large lecture hall.

## COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

The grounds and numerous imposing buildings of Columbia University are located on Morningside Heights, one of the best residential sections of New York City, and are easy of access by subway and surface cars. Columbia University is one of the largest educational institutions in the United States and has a larger student body than any other university. The University is composed of various colleges and schools, among which are Columbia College for men and Barnard College for Women, a Faculty of Fine Arts, Faculties of Political Science, Philosophy and Pure Science, a School of Law, a College of Physicians and Surgeons, a College of Pharmacy, a School of Mines, Engineering and Chemistry, a School of Journalism and a Teachers' College; it trains students for entrance to the different professions and confers various degrees. In addition to the regular full time courses the University has evening classes, known as Extension Teaching classes, summer sessions and an Institute of Arts and Sciences. The annual tuition fees for the regular full time courses range from $150.00 to $250.00 per annum. Excellent living accommodations can be had in the dormitories of the University for $300.00 for the academic year. For instruction during the summer sessions and in the evening the tuition fees are, of course, considerably less.

Courses in Extension Teaching are offered to men and women who can give only a portion of their time to study. Extension Teaching is defined by the statutes of the University as

> "* * * instruction given by the University officers under the administrative supervision and control of the University, either away from the University buildings, or at the University, for the benefit of students unable to attend the regular courses of instruction."

The following is quoted from the bulletin of the University on Extension Teaching:

> "Courses in Extension Teaching are planned for two classes of students—first, men and women who can give only a portion of their time to study and who desire to pursue subjects included in a liberal education of the character and grade of a college or professional school, but without any reference to academic degree— second, those who look forward to qualifying themselves to obtain in the future academic recognition, involving acceptance of the work which they may satisfactorily complete in Extension Teaching."

Extension Teaching courses are given in the afternoon and in the evening after working hours. No examination is required for admission to courses offered in Extension Teaching, but the instructors must be satisfied that students can pursue the courses with advantage. The courses cover a great variety of subjects, ranging from higher mathematics, the dead languages and other difficult subjects, to bookkeeping, stenography and typewriting. Some idea can be obtained of the importance of the Extension Teaching work and of the great variety of subjects covered when it is pointed out that this work alone requires almost 200 instructors.

The Institute of Arts and Sciences is a branch of the Extension Teaching Department of Columbia University and "affords wise and systematic use of leisure time for men and women who desire to keep abreast of the best in current thought through popular lectures." The program of the Institute includes about 250 lectures, concerts, dramatic recitals, etc., which are given in the various auditoriums in the University buildings almost every afternoon and evening from October to April of each year. The lecturers are men of recognized scholastic standing and ability and some of them are of national and international renown. Lectures are given in Literature, Science, Music, Social Science, Travel, Art, Architecture and Drama. The payment in advance of $10.00 annual dues entitles a member to attend all the lectures. At the afternoon sessions only one person is admitted on a ticket, but in the evening each ticket admits two. An enrollment fee of $5.00 must be paid upon joining the Institute, but when membership is continued from year to year no additional enrollment fees are required. There are no entrance requirements, as no academic credit is given for attendance at the lectures.

## NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

This is another large institution for higher education in New York City. New York University has a large plot of ground in a section of the Borough of the Bronx known as University Heights. Here are located the College of Arts and Pure Science and the School of Applied Science of the University, the dormitories, gymnasium, campus and athletic field. The University also has a large building on Washington Square, in the lower part of Manhattan Island, where it carries on educational work. At Washington Square are the Washington Square College, which

conducts collegiate work similar to that offered at University Heights; a School of Commerce, Accounts and Finance, containing a Department of Journalism; a School of Pedagogy; a School of Law and a Graduate School. The University also has a Medical College and a Veterinary College located in another part of Manhattan. In the various schools at Washington Square, in addition to the morning and afternoon classes, instruction is given in the evening for the benefit of students who are employed during the day. The tuition fees and rentals for rooms charged by the University are very moderate. Various degrees and certificates are conferred by the University as the result of work done by students in the different Departments and Schools.

The courses of study of the public and private educational institutions in New York State are supervised by The University of the State of New York, which is part of the New York State Department of Education, and is under the direction of a Board of Regents and the State Commissioner of Education, who is also President of the University of the State of New York. In January and June of each year examinations are held in the schools throughout the State along lines indicated by the University of the State of New York in order to test the fitness of the students for advancement. The University also holds periodical examinations, known as Regents' Examinations, for students desiring Academic Diplomas, College Entrance Diplomas and Certificates. Usually the holders of College Entrance Diplomas and Certificates may enter any of the colleges in the State without taking the customary entrance examinations. In January and June of each year examinations are held in New York City for students who desire to obtain the Qualifying Certificates issued by the University. These certificates entitle the holder to admission to the study of the various professions (medicine, dentistry, law, pharmacy, optometry, veterinary science, accountancy, nurse training, chiropody and reporting) and for admission to certain professional and technical schools. Applicants for admission to the latter examinations who are twenty-one years of age or over are not questioned relative to their preparation, but younger applicants must show that they are satisfactorily prepared to take the examinations.

To students of music and music lovers New York City has much to offer, both in the way of instruction and in the way of opportunities for enjoying good music. Of musical colleges and schools, giving instruction in all branches of the art, there are a considerable number. The Metropolitan Opera House, in which each season are given many of the well-known operas, is perhaps the greatest attraction in the City for lovers of good music. Almost all of the great operatic stars in the world appear at the Metropolitan Opera House from time to time. Famous singers from all parts of the world also give concerts and song recitals in the numerous halls and auditoriums. In the large churches of all denominations the very best choir singing and organ recitals can be heard, and many public organ recitals are given under the auspices of the Board of Education of the City of New York. Various glee clubs and singing societies offer entertaining programs from time to time. Most of the world's famous

violinists, celloists, pianists and other instrumental artists find their way to New York each year, and New Yorkers also have frequent opportunities of hearing the best band and orchestral music.

The foregoing gives only the barest outline of the more important educational opportunities offered in New York City. Residence in New York carries with it many exceptional opportunities for self-improvement and education which are not easily classified. There are, for instance, large expositions, such as the Electrical Show, Automobile Show and various other expositions in the technical and mechanical lines; Business Shows, Flower Shows, and many others, where persons interested in special lines may see the latest developments and keep abreast of the times; lectures and addresses of prominent men and women who visit the City; the sermons of prominent resident and visiting ministers of all denominations, and numerous other educational opportunities seldom to be enjoyed in small communities.

# V.

## CHARITABLE AND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE

To enumerate and explain the activities of the many public institutions and private organizations and societies engaged in charitable and philanthropic work in New York City would require a large volume, and therefore only a very general idea of their scope can here be given.

Millions of dollars are expended each year by the City and by private individuals and societies to alleviate human suffering, safeguard life, care for the sick and unfortunate, add to the comfort and happiness of the poor and help the poor to help themselves.

The Department of Public Charities of the City of New York has the management of numerous charitable institutions, including five large general hospitals, a hospital and schools for feeble-minded and epileptic children, a home for convalescent mothers, homes for the aged and infirm, a colony for homeless men and a free Municipal Lodging House. In the Municipal Lodging House (which, with its annex, can accommodate more than 2,500 people) homeless men and women are given shelter for the night and supplied with supper and breakfast. The special needs of applicants are examined into and where possible aid is rendered. Much of the routine work of the institution, such as dish washing, window washing, laundry work, waiting, etc., is done by applicants in return for temporary board and lodging. Applicants who are skilled workers are sometimes temporarily employed in the various shops connected with the Lodging House. In return for their services such applicants receive temporary board and lodging and are granted certain privileges. The barber shop, cobbler shop, tailor shop and other similar facilities offered by the Lodging House afford applicants an opportunity of improving their personal appearance. Applicants who are found to be incapable of supporting themselves are sent by the officials in charge of the Lodging House to the various public institutions of the City which care for such people.

The Department has a Bureau of Social Investigation which investigates the causes of poverty in the City and studies them for the purpose of improving conditions. The Department also supervises the expenditure of millions of dollars of public money which is paid to various private hospitals, sanitoriums and homes for the maintenance by them of public wards.

The Department of Health of New York City, in addition to various other activities, has the management of five or six large free hospitals which are located in different parts of the City. These hospitals are principally for the care of persons afflicted with contagious and communicable diseases. One important branch of the Department of Health is the Bureau of Laboratories, which does research work and produces various kinds of vaccines and serums for combating infectious diseases, and also conducts chemical and other experiments. To persons unable to

pay the department distributes antiserums and vaccines free of charge. All cases involving so-called contagious and infectious diseases must be reported to the Department of Health. Records of all births, marriages and deaths in the City are kept by this Department. Some of its other activities have been briefly outlined under Section II of this book.

A City department known as the Department of Bellevue and Allied Hospitals has the management of a number of public hospitals located in different districts. These hospitals take care of emergency and accident cases in addition to doing general hospital work.

In the poorer and congested districts a number of interior public baths are conducted by the City. These baths are open at all seasons of the year. There are more than 20 such baths. The newer ones are equipped with swimming pools and gymnasium facilities as well as with the usual shower baths. The public is admitted to most of these baths without charge, but in some charges of 1 cent for towel and 1 cent for soap are made. Men, women and children are admitted at stipulated hours. During the warm weather the City maintains various floating baths, as well as a large municipal bath for sea bathing at Coney Island. At the latter bath a charge of 10 cents is made for the use of a locker or room, and, of course, bathers must supply their own bathing suits. Certain of the public schools are equipped with swimming pools.

The large churches of the City and various private benevolent organizations have established chapels and settlement houses in most of the poorer sections. The activities carried on in these institutions are many and varied, including, besides religious training, kindergarten work and instruction of children in useful arts, day nurseries, where poor women who are employed during the day may leave their children to be cared for, lectures, debates, savings clubs, instruction in gymnastics and dancing and various entertainments. These institutions are in charge of trained religious and social workers who often are assisted by volunteer workers.

The wealthy citizens of the City, singly and collectively, have been lavish in their donations for the support of benevolent institutions of all kinds. They have formed societies and associations to investigate the social, economic and religious problems of the City; they have founded libraries, lodging houses, working girls' clubs, day nurseries, milk stations, legal aid societies, clinics and numerous other institutions.

One large building in the City, known as the United Charities Building, contains the headquarters of a number of charitable and benevolent organizations, among them being the Charity Organization Society and the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, both large organizations which do general relief work of every description, are centers for social service, and in the carrying out of their work dispense hundreds of thousands of dollars each year.

Young men and young women who are unacquainted with New York and without relatives or friends in the City will do well to get in touch with the Young Men's Christian Association or Young Women's Christian Association. Limited memberships in these associations, entitling one to the use of the library, reading rooms, and to admission to societies and clubs,

usually can be had for about $5.00 per annum; and full membership, which includes the use of the gymnasium, swimming pool, shower baths, etc. generally can be had for from $10.00 to $15.00 per annum. There are about fifteen separate Y. M. C. A. and about half a dozen Y. W. C. A. buildings located in various parts of the City. The difference in membership fees is accounted for by the fact that some of the branches are comparatively small and cannot offer their members so many accommodations and advantages as can the larger branches. Many of the larger branches have restaurant facilities. These also have dormitories which in some instances can accommodate more than 250 people. The rentals charged for rooms in these dormitories usually are from $2.50 per week upward. The demand for such rooms is often greater than the supply. For the benefit of those who cannot be accommodated in the dormitories, lists of boarding houses located in the vicinity are kept at each branch. These boarding houses have been investigated and found to be thoroughly satisfactory. The officers in charge of these institutions take an interest in all members and help them in every way possible.

Two other associations doing work similar to the Y. M. C. A. and Y.W. C. A. are the Young Men's Hebrew Association and the Young Women's Hebrew Association.

A society that renders valuable service to strangers who come to New York City, especially women and girls, is the Travelers' Aid Society. This is a large and influential organization which has branches in different parts of the country and enjoys the co-operation of many important persons and institutions. The Society's agents (both men and women) who are stationed at all the principal railway and steamship terminals in or near New York City, render aid to travelers by advising them how to reach various parts of the City, recommending reliable hotels and boarding houses, assisting persons who are traveling beyond the City in making proper connections with boats and trains, and by giving other valuable advice and assistance. The information clerks at the various railway and steamship terminals will direct any stranger to the Travelers' Aid Agents, who can be recognized by their official badges. The Society has a large building in New York City where travelers are temporarily cared for in emergencies. All the service rendered by the Society is absolutely free to everyone, regardless of race, creed or color.

The City churches of every denomination welcome strangers, and the church meetings and socials offer opportunities for strangers in the City to form desirable acquaintances.

All the larger fraternal orders and secret societies have branches or lodges in New York.

# VI.

## DIVERSION, AMUSEMENT AND RECREATION

No city in the world offers more in the way of diversion and amusement than does New York, and few great cities offer so many opportunities for recreation.

A walk or ride along the avenues of New York, which are always crowded with people and vehicles, and which are lined with handsome shops, is interesting and diverting to an observing person. The avenues offer a wonderful picture of life and activity, especially at night, when the electric signs are lit up and the shop windows illuminated, and when the people, finished with the day's work, are out for amusement.

The public parks of the City also offer opportunities for recreation. The City contains almost 150 parks, which are scattered over its entire area. Some of these parks cover considerably less than an acre and others cover hundreds of acres. The largest park is Pelham Bay Park, which is located in the Borough of the Bronx, and which covers 1,756 acres. The larger parks are beautifully laid out, with winding driveways and paths, trees, shrubbery and flowers. Some of them also have picturesque lakes and ponds, on which boating is permitted in the summer and ice skating in the winter; zoological gardens, containing animals, birds and reptiles from all parts of the world; botanical gardens, in which are displayed hundreds of tropical and other plants and flowers; playgrounds for children, baseball grounds, croquet grounds, tennis courts, and one park has a public golf course. During the summer months free public concerts are given in many of the parks.

As stated elsewhere, New York City is the greatest theatrical center in the world and has more theatres than any other city. In the theatrical district, in the Borough of Manhattan, on or near that section of Broadway known as "The Great White Way," a large number of theatres are crowded together. Most of these theatres offer only high grade attractions. All of the theatres of the City are not, however, crowded in this section; some of the other boroughs have well defined theatrical districts in which there are large theatres. All the popular American actors and a large number of prominent foreign actors appear in New York at intervals, and often many of them are playing in the City at the same time. Most of the successful plays, musical comedies and comic operas produced in this country first appear in New York for a number of months before going "on the road." The prices charged in the best grade theatres range from 50 cents for second balcony seats to $2.50 for box or front row orchestra seats. In the better class vaudeville theatres seats can be had for 25 cents and upwards to $1.50, and in the less attractive vaudeville and moving picture theatres seats can be had for from 10 cents to 25 cents each. In all parts of the City there are also a great many small moving picture theatres to which admission can be had for 5 cents or 10 cents. The City also contains various large halls suitable for expositions, shows and spectacular performances. These halls are used for automobile shows, horse shows, food shows, flower shows, and various other similar

attractions, as well as for such performances as the Circus and Wild West Show. Automobile, motorcycle and horse races are held at two or three of the large race tracks in NewYork. There are also various baseball parks and athletic fields where games and meets are held from time to time. Of golf courses and tennis courts there are a large number in and near the City. Boxing and wrestling matches may be seen almost nightly at the various athletic clubs. For those who enjoy bowling, billiards or pool there are many bowling alleys and billiard and pool parlors.

Many of the large hotels and restaurants have cabaret performances during dining hours for the entertainment of their guests. These performances usually consist of music, singing, and dancing, and sometimes more than a dozen performers take part. Many of the large restaurants and hotels also have dancing floors for their patrons.

During the summer months the hotels open their roof gardens, and some theatrical performances also are given on roof gardens.

There are many fine salt-water bathing beaches in and near the City. These beaches afford great relief to New Yorkers during the warm weather. The famous Coney Island is within the City limits. This unquestionably is the world's greatest amusement center. Aside from the bathing to be had there, Coney Island offers innumerable amusement features; in fact, there are at least a couple of miles of avenue lined with all sorts of attractions designed to amuse. Coney Island can be reached from all parts of New York City by subway, elevated railway or surface cars for from 5 cents to 15 cents one way. Large automobile buses carry passengers to Coney Island from Manhattan for one dollar each way. During the summer months excursion steamers ply at frequent intervals between Manhattan and Coney Island. The fare charged is very moderate. The trip on these steamers is one of the most interesting short excursion trips to be had in the vicinity of New York. The boats pass down the Hudson River, where most of the great trans-Atlantic liners dock, and through Upper New York Bay, offering a magnificent view of the great cluster of skyscrapers on the south end of Manhattan Island, as well as of some of the great bridges over the East River, two or three forts, the Statue of Liberty, and various types of vessels. Numerous pleasant excursion trips can be taken from New York at very moderate fares. Excursion trips up the Hudson River, which is famed the world over for its beautiful scenery, are run daily during the summer months.

The fine roads in the vicinity of the City offer excellent automobiling. Trolley trips to picturesque and historic points outside the City are easily arranged, and various trolley guides outlining such trips are to be had at the news stands.

Persons who enjoy fishing do not have to go far from New York to obtain excellent salt-water fishing. Bluefish, striped bass, weakfish, and a number of other attractive salt-water game and food fishes each summer visit the waters surrounding New York and furnish sport to thousands of anglers. For good fresh-water fishing New Yorkers must travel forty or fifty miles from the City. Fair hunting for small game can be had at about the same distance from New York.

## SOME INTERESTING FACTS AND FIGURES DEMONSTRATING THE GREATNESS OF NEW YORK CITY.

The population of New York City exceeds the combined population of twelve American states.

New York City contains more than 700,000 Germans and German-Americans, more than 560,000 Irish and Irish-Americans and more than 530,000 Italians. There are about 900,000 Jews in the City.

The City uses about 540,000,000 gallons of water per day, or more than 100 gallons per day for each resident.

About 100,000 people are employed by the City, including 23,000 public school teachers, 10,600 policemen, 5,000 firemen and 7,000 street cleaners. The City payroll amounts to $100,000,000 per annum.

To carry on the government of New York City one year more than $200,000,000 are required.

The City's appropriation for educational purposes is in excess of $40,000,000 per annum.

More than 850,000 pupils of all grades receive instruction in the 550 public schools of New York City.

There are more than 103,000 apartment houses of all styles, types and grades in New York, each containing three or more families.

The total number of passengers carried on all the street railways in New York City during the year ended June 30, 1916, was 1,898,735,615.

There are 1,610 miles of street railway trackage in the City.

Based on figures supplied by the railroad and steamship companies having terminals in or near New York, it has been estimated that the City has about 300,000 visitors each day.

The assessed value of the taxable property in New York City is about $8,500,000,000.

In 1915 the market value of the stocks sold on the New York Stock Exchange was in excess of $12,660,000,000, and in former years the sales have sometimes exceeded $20,000,000,000. This aside from the market value of the bonds sold each year on the Exchange, which sometimes amounts to $1,000,000,000.

The daily clearings at the New York Clearing House in 1915 amounted to about $300,000,000.

About 46½% of the total foreign commerce of the United States passed through the Port of New York in 1915.

The value of the foreign commerce of the Port of New York (imports and exports) exceeds $2,000,000,000 annually. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1915, it amounted to more than $2,225,000,000.

The amount of duty collected at the Port of New York in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1913, was $198,472,688—more than 63% of the total duty collected at all ports of the United States; during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1914, the amount of customs duty collected at the Port of New York was $192,270,819, or 67.77% of the total for all ports.

The City of New York has a water front of more than 550 miles, about 15% of which is developed.

More than 70% of the immigrants entering the United States pass through the Port of New York.

New York City has within its borders more than 10% of the manufacturing plants in the United States.

To transact the business of the New York Post Office (which covers only the boroughs of Manhattan and The Bronx) 9,975 postal employees are required.

Domestic and International money orders in the amount of $119,958,797.67 were issued and paid during the fiscal year 1915.

The total postal receipts of the New York Post Office for 1915 were $32,161,055.02—more than 10% of the total postal receipts for the whole United States.

There are more than 600,000 telephones in service in New York City.

The highest buildings in the world are located in Manhattan. The Woolworth Building, which surmounts them all, is 790 feet high. There are many others ranging from 750 feet to 250 feet.

New York has four of the largest bridges in the world, each over a mile long. The total cost of these four bridges (including cost of land purchased for approaches, etc.) is in the neighborhood of $100,000,000.

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